

Topics and Timetable for 2011

Weeks 1 - 7	Class sessions	Topics
1 . 28 February to 6 March Introduction to Flexible Learning (FL)	Workshop: 2 March Onsite: 10:00-12:00 Venue: G303 Web conference: 3 March: 15:00-17:00	Orientation to the course and the class participants in a workshop – choose either time. Activity one: Set up blog and introduce yourself and your work.
2. 7 to 13 March What is Flexible Learning?		Discuss the concepts of flexibility in learning (five dimensions). Activity two –Define FL in your context, and discuss reasons for using flexible approaches.
3. 14 to 20 March Trends and Examples of Flexible Learning	Workshop: 16 March Onsite: 10:00-12:00 Venue: D317 Web conference: 17 March: 15:00-16:30	Explore examples of FL – blended, online, RPL. Activity three – Investigate and describe an example of FL in your organisation.
4. & 5. (2 wks) 21 March to 3 April Concepts of Flexible Learning: Access & equity Diversity & Inclusivity	Self-directed work	Considerations for ensuring access to all learners and factors of diversity (gender, socioeconomic, ethnicity, learning etc.) will be discussed. Your learners’ preferences and abilities will be discussed. Activity four –Define and describe this week’s concepts in your professional context.
6. 4 to 10 April Designing strategies for Flexible Learning	Workshop: 6 April Onsite: 10:00-12:00 Venue: D317 Web conference: 7 April: 15:00-16:30	Approaches to designing strategies for FL. Activity five – Design and describe FL strategies for your context.
7. 11 to 17 April Planning Flexible Learning	Self-directed work	Discuss ideas and strategies for your Flexible Learning plan. Activity six – Continue developing the Flexible Learning plan on your blog using the template.
Easter break and mid term break - 18 April to 1 May (2 weeks)		

Weeks 8 - 17	Class sessions	Topics
8. 2 to 8 May Concepts of Flexible Learning: Open Education Resources (OER)	Web conference presentation: 5 May: 15:00-16:30	Investigate the OER Guide, and select an aspect to explore. Activity seven – Define OER in your context, and describe an aspect you could use.
9. 9 to 15 May Flexible Learning & adult learning theory	Self-directed work	Explore adult learning theory, and choose one to underpin FL in your context. Activity eight – Describe the learning theory underpinning your plan.
10. 16 to 22 May Sustainable Flexible Learning	Workshop: 18 May Onsite: 10:00-12:00 Venue: D317 Web conference: 19 May: 15:00-16:30	Investigate ways to ensure sustainable methods are used for learning. Activity nine – Define and describe this week's concept in your professional context.
11. 23 to 29 May Organisational policy & strategy	Self-directed work	Factors in your organisation which might influence flexible learning are investigated. Activity ten - Outline how your FL plan fits within your organisational strategy.
12. 30 May to 5 June Concepts of Flexible Learning: Cultural sensitivity & indigenous learners	Workshop: 1 June 10:00-12:00 Venue: D317 Web conference: 2 June 15:00 – 16:30	Indigenous learners and flexible learning. For example critical success factors for Maori and Pacific Island students will be explored. Activity eleven - Define and describe this week's concepts in your professional context.
13. & 14. (2 wks) 6 to 19 June Your Flexible Learning Plan	Web conference tutorial: 9 June 15:00 – 16:00	Assessment: Work on finalising your flexible learning plan on your blog over the next two weeks. Choose a format for the presentation and prepare your presentation for the mini-conference .
15. 20 to 26 June Mini-conference	Mini-conference: 22 June 10:00-12:30 Venue: D317	Assessment: Present your final Flexible Learning plan – face-to-face or online. Final date for submission of assessments: 1 July 2011